NUMB. CIII.

The SPECTATOR.

——— Sibi quivis
Speret idem fruſtra ſudet fruſtraque laboret
Auſus idem ——— Hor.

Thurſday, June 28. 1711.

MY Friend the Divine having been uſed with Words of Compliſiance (which he thinks could be properly applied to no one living, and I think could be only ſpoken of him, and that in his Abſence) was ſo extremely offended with the exceſſive way of ſpeaking Civilities among us, that he made a Diſcourſe upon it at the Club, which he concluded with an Argument, that he had not heard one Compliment made in our Society ſince its Commencement. Every one was pleaſed with his Concluſion, and as each knew his good Will to the reſt, he was convinced that the many Profeſſions of Kindneſs and Service which we ordinarily meet with are not natural where the Heart is well inclined, but are a Proſtitution of Speech ſeldom intended to mean Any Part of what they expreſs, never to mean All they expreſs. Our Reverend Friend, upon this Topick, pointed to us two or three Paragraphs on this Subject in the firſt Sermon of the firſt Volume of the late Arch-Biſhop's Poſthumous Works. I do not know that I ever read any thing that pleaſed me more, and as it is the Praiſe of *Longinus*, that he ſpeaks of the Sublime in a Stile ſuitable to it, ſo one may ſay of this Author upon Sincerity, that he abhors any Pomp of Rhetorick on this Occaſion, and treats it with a more than ordinary Simplicity, at once to be a Preacher and an Example. With what Command of himſelf does he lay before us, in the Language and Temper of his Profeſſion, a Fault, which by the leaſt Liberty and Warmth of Expreſſion would be the moſt lively Wit and Satyr? But his Heart was better diſpoſed, and the good Man chaſtiſed the great Wit in ſuch a manner, that he was able to ſpeak as follows.

'——— Amongſt too many other Inſtances 'of the great Corruption and Degeneracy of the 'Age wherein we live, the great and general want 'of Sincerity in Converſation is none of the leaſt. 'The World is grown ſo full of Diſſimulation and 'Compliment, that Mens Words are hardly any Sig'nification of their Thoughts; and if any Man 'meaſure his Words by his Heart, and ſpeak as he 'thinks, and do not expreſs more Kindneſs to every 'Man, than Men uſually have for any Man, he 'can hardly eſcape the Cenſure of want of Breed'ing. The old *Engliſh* Plainneſs and Sincerity, 'that generous Integrity of Nature, and Honeſty of 'Diſpoſition, which always argues true Greatneſs 'of Mind, and is uſually accompany'd with un'daunted Courage and Reſolution, is in a great 'meaſure loſt amongſt us: There hath been a long 'Endeavour to transform us into Foreign Manners 'and Faſhions, and to bring us to a ſervile Imita'tion of none of the beſt of our Neighbours, in 'ſome of the worſt of their Qualities. The Dialect 'of Converſation is now-a-days ſo ſwell'd with 'Vanity and Compliment, and ſo ſurfeited (as I 'may ſay) of Expreſſions of Kindneſs and Reſpect, 'that if a Man that lived an Age or two ago ſhou'd 'return into the World again, he would really 'want a Dictionary to help him to underſtand his 'own Language, and to know the true intrinſick 'Value of the Phraſe in Faſhion, and wou'd hard'ly at firſt believe at what a low Rate the higheſt 'Strains and Expreſſions of Kindneſs imaginable do 'commonly paſs in current Payment; and when he 'ſhou'd come to underſtand it, it wou'd be a great 'while before he cou'd bring himſelf with a good 'Countenance and a good Conſcience to converſe 'with Men upon equal Terms, and in their own 'way.

'And in truth it is hard to ſay, whether it ſhou'd 'more provoke our Contempt or our Pity, to hear 'what ſolemn Expreſſions of Reſpect and Kindneſs 'will paſs between Men, almoſt upon no Occaſion, 'how great Honour and Eſteem they will declare 'for one whom perhaps they never ſaw before, and 'how entirely they are all on the ſudden devoted 'to his Service and Intereſt, for no Reaſon; how 'infinitely and eternally oblig'd to him for no Be'nefit, and how extreamly they will be concern'd

'for

'for him, yea and afflicted too, for no Cauſe. I 'know it is ſaid, in Juſtification of this hollow kind 'of Converſation, that there is no Harm no 'real Deceit in Compliment, but the matter is 'well enough, ſo long as we underſtand one ano-'ther; & *Verba valent ut Nummi*, *Words are like* '*Mony*; and when the current Value of them is 'generally underſtood, no Man is cheated by them. 'This is ſomething, if ſuch Words were any thing; 'but being brought into the Account, they are meer 'Cyphers. However it is ſtill a juſt Matter of 'Complaint, that Sincerity and Plainneſs are out of 'Faſhion, and that our Language is running into 'a Lie; that Men have almoſt quite perverted the 'uſe of Speech, and made Words to ſignify nothing; 'that the greateſt part of the Converſation of Man-'kind is little elſe but driving a Trade of Diſſimu-'lation; inſomuch that it wou'd make a Man heart-'ily ſick and weary of the World, to ſee the little 'Sincerity that is in Uſe and Practice among 'Men.

When the Vice is placed in this contemptible Light, he argues unanſwerably againſt it in Words and Thoughts ſo natural, that any Man who reads them would imagine he himſelf could have been Author of them.

'If the Shew of any thing be good for any thing, 'I am ſure Sincerity is better; for why does any 'Man diſſemble, or ſeem to be that which he is 'not, but becauſe he thinks it good to have ſuch a 'Quality as he pretends to? For to counterfeit and 'diſſemble, is to put on the Appearance of ſome 'real Excellency. Now the beſt Way in the 'World to ſeem to be any thing, is really to be 'what he would ſeem to be. Beſides, that it is 'many times as troubleſome to make good the 'Pretence of a good Quality, as to have it; and if 'a Man have it not, it is ten to one but he is diſ-'covered to want it, and then all his Pains and 'Labour to ſeem to have it is loſt.

In another Part of the ſame Diſcourſe he goes on to ſhew, that all Artifice muſt naturally tend to the Diſappointment of him that practiſes it.

'Whatſoever Convenience may be thought to 'be in Falſhood and Diſſimulation, it is ſoon over; 'but the Inconvenience of it is perpetual, becauſe 'it brings a Man under an everlaſting Jealouſie and 'Suſpicion, ſo that he is not believ'd when he 'ſpeaks Truth, nor truſted when perhaps he means 'honeſtly: When a Man hath once forfeited the 'Reputation of his Integrity, he is ſet faſt, and no-'thing will then ſerve his turn, neither Truth nor 'Falſhood.

Compleat Setts of this Paper, for the Month of May, are to be ſold by Mr. Graves in St. James's Street; Mr. Lewis under Tom's Coffee-Houſe, Covent-Garden; Mr. Lillie, Perfumer, the Corner of Beaufort-Buildings; Mr. Sanger at the Temple Gate; Mr. Lloyd near the Church in the Temple; Mr. Knapton in St. Paul's Church-Yard; Mr. Round in Exchange Ally, and Mrs. Baldwin in Warwick-lane, where alſo may be had thoſe for the Months of March and April.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

There is in the Preſs, and will be ſpeedily publiſh'd, the ſecond Edition of a Grammar of the Engliſh Tongue; (in this the true Genius of the Language is conſulted, and not incumber'd with any Terms which need an Explanation) with Notes giving the Grounds and Reaſon of Grammar in General; all reviſ'd and improved by the beſt Hands. To this is now added the Arts of Rhetoric, Poetry and Logic, freed from the Jargon of the Schools. The whole making a Compleat Syſtem of an Engliſh Education. All fitted to the Uſe of Gentlemen and Ladies, as well as the Schools of Great Britain and Ireland: And to render it yet more eaſie and uſeful, all the Rules are now put into Engliſh Verſe. Printed for John Brightland, and to be ſold by D. Brown and B. Tooke at Temple-bar; J. Walthoe and J. Ward in the Temple; N. Bodington in Duck-Lane; J. and B. Sprint in Little Britain; W. Taylor in Pater-noſter-row; T. Horn, G. Strahan and R. Smith at the Royal Exchange; D. Midwinter and H. Clements in St. Paul's Church-yard; J. Tonſon in the Strand; S. Vernam and J. Osborne in Lombard-Street, and other Booksellers.

Whereas the Magiſtrate of Spa, near Liege, hath received Information, that ſeveral private Perſons have ſent into England and other Countries great Quantities of Foreign Mineral Waters under the Denomination of Spa Waters, which have neither its Vertue or Qualities; and thinking himſelf obliged to undeceive all Perſons concerned, and to inform the Publick in general, that it may be eaſily proved the greateſt part of thoſe Mineral Waters, which this Year have been ſent into Foreign Countries are not truly ſuch, but taken from other Places (except thoſe ſent and diſpoſed of by Mr. Seleſſin and Mr. Hubert Grandchamps, Merchants of Liege:) Therefore, to prevent the like Abuſe for the future, all Perſons are deſired to take Notice, that whatever Bottles or Hampers ſhall be ſent from their Correſpondents, without an Authentick Copy of the Declaration made on the 15th of May. 1711, by the College of Phyſicians at Liege, and without the ordinary Seal, and a Certificate ſigned by the Greffier of Spa, muſt be look'd upon as Waters Counterfeit, and taken from other Places, and not approved by the ſaid College of Phyſicians at Liege.

Incomparable Perfuming Drops for Handkerchiefs, and all other Linnen Cloaths, Gloves, &c. being the moſt Excellent for that purpoſe in the Univerſe; for they ſtain nothing that is perfumed with 'em, any more than fair Water, but are the moſt Delectable, Fragrant, and Odoriferous Perfume in Nature, and good againſt all Diſeaſes of the Head and Brain: By their delicious Smell, they Comfort, Revive, and Refreſh all the Senſes, Natural, Vital and Animal, enliven the Spirits, chear the Heart, and drive away Melancholy: They alſo perfume Rooms, Beds, Preſſes, Drawers, Boxes, &c. making them ſmell ſurprizingly Fine and Odoriferous. They perfume the Hands excellently, are an extraordinary Scent for the Pocket; and, in ſhort, are ſo exceeding Pleaſant and Delightful, ſo admirably Curious and Delicate, and of ſuch general Uſe, that nothing in the World can compare with 'em. Sold only at Mr. Payn's Toy-ſhop, at the Angel and Crown in St. Paul's Church-yard, near Chepſide, at 2 s. 6d. a Bottle, with Directions.

The Bright Compound Spirit of Chamomil, being impregnated with its true Eſſential Volatile Salt, found by frequent Experience to be of the utmoſt Efficacy in giving preſent Relief in the Wind-Cholick, Gravel, griping Pains in the Bowels, Gout and Rhumatick Pains; and which has been uſed with great ſucceſs by thoſe who drink the Bath, Tunbridge, and Spaw Waters; are only Sold by Mrs. Norris at the Sign of Mr. Bateman's Head in St. Paul's Church-Doctor's Commons, price 2 s. being put up in Flint Glaſſes for the Pocket. Notice of which was given in the Gazette the 26th Inſtant.

Le Diable Boiteux, or the Devil upon two Sticks; tranſlated from the laſt Edition at Paris, with ſeveral Additions; The Second Edition Corrected. Printed for Jacob Tonſon at Shakſpear's Head over-againſt Catharine-ſtreet in the Strand.

LONDON: Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the *Dolphin* in *Little-Britain*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertiſements are taken in; as alſo by *Charles Lillie*, Perfumer, at the Corner of *Beauford-Buildings* in the *Strand*.